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EIC-M-17
13 June 1952
CIA 436233

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SECURITY INFORMATION

Economic Intelligence Committee

Minutes of Meeting held in

Room 2101, Temporary "M" Building
26th and Constitution Avenue, N.W.

4 June 1952

PRESENT:

25X1A9a Mr. Robert Amory, Jr., CIA, Chairman
25X1A9a [REDACTED] CIA, Executive Secretary
[REDACTED] CIA
Mr. Howard Wiedemann, State
Miss Marion Worthing, State
Mr. Joseph Yager, State
Col. George B. Russell, Army
Col. D. D. Brannon, JIC
Cdr. Donald C. Deane, Navy
Lt. Cdr. J. A. Meyersholen, Navy
Col. H. G. V. Hart, JCS
Dr. Norris G. Kenny, Munitions Board
Mr. Joseph Kappel, Bureau of the Budget

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Action: The minutes of the Economic Intelligence Committee meeting of 15 May 1952 (EIC-M-16) were approved.

REQUEST BY THE COMMITTEE ON STATISTICAL SECURITY FOR EIC CONSIDERATION OF THE INTELLIGENCE VALUE OF US IMPORT STATISTICS

2. Action: It was agreed that the EIC will set up a working group composed of representatives from CIA, State, Munitions Board, Bureau of the Budget, and other interested agencies, in order to investigate the intelligence utility to the Soviets of currently available statistics on US import, distribution, and use of nickel, cobalt, and columbite. The working group is directed to draw up a report for review by the EIC.

3. Discussion: Mr. Joseph Kappel, Bureau of the Budget and Executive Secretary on the Committee on Statistical Security, outlined the problem of restricting the publication of US import statistics. He indicated that the Committee on Statistical Security has received

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widely conflicting views on this question. A paper prepared by the Secretariat on the background of this problem was distributed at the meeting.

4. Mr. Amory, CIA, pointed out the importance of focusing US intelligence experience on the potential intelligence utility to the Soviets of certain information on the US economy. It was also stressed that the EIC would limit its consideration to the intelligence aspects of the problem, and would not undertake to advise on the advantages and disadvantages to the US, nor the feasibility of suppressing a given body of data.

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yyyyyyyyyyyyy SUGGESTIONS FOR REVISIONS OF EIC-R-1
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5. Action: The Chairman was requested to report the views of the EIC on this matter to the Intelligence Advisory Committee. (See attached report.)

AIR FORCE REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE ON A STUDY OF SOVIET RECUPERATION FROM AIR ATTACK

6. Action: In view of the absence of Air Force representatives, the Executive Secretary was directed to obtain further information on the nature of the assistance required by the Air Force and to notify the other members accordingly.

PROGRESS REPORT ON SURVEY OF INTELLIGENCE BY EIC SUBCOMMITTEES AND CONSIDERATION OF A MODEL SURVEY FORM

7. Action: The model survey form was approved by the EIC with the recommendation that the survey should be conducted separately for the USSR, Eastern Europe, and Communist China. The Executive Secretary was directed to transmit the model form to each of the EIC Subcommittees and to such ad hoc working groups as are necessary to survey the most important sectors of the economies of the Soviet Orbit.

DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE EIC STUDIES ON CERTAIN ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE ASPECTS OF CIVIL DEFENSE

8. Discussion: Mr. Amory, CIA, pointed out that many of the major sections of NIE-60, on Russian Civil Defense, were based on economic intelligence. Orr has been assigned continuing responsibility for the economic intelligence topics relating to this field, (stockpiling, dispersion, etc.), and Mr. Amory indicated that ORR would like to call on the EIC for pertinent intelligence information and for assistance in the review of ORR studies.

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CONSIDERATION OF TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A STUDY OF COMMODITY MOVEMENTS IN THE USSR

9. Action: The terms of reference for a study of commodity movements in the USSR by the Transportation Subcommittee were distributed to EIC members prior to the meeting. It was agreed that comments and recommendations will be forwarded to the Executive Secretary by 11 June, otherwise concurrence will be assumed.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR EIC SUBCOMMITTEE ON POPULATION AND MANPOWER

10. Action: The proposed terms of reference for the EIC Subcommittee on Population and Manpower were approved.

11. Discussion: Mr. Amory, CIA, pointed out that two of the most important problems to be studied by this Subcommittee are: on the military side -- manpower availabilities for the fighting forces, and on the economic side -- indices of manpower productivity.

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Executive Secretary
Economic Intelligence Committee

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